

THE EASTERN IOWA DXer

Eastern Iowa DX Association Newsletter - January 1986

HAPPY NEW YEAR! de W0VX, Editor

JANUARY MEETING

The regular January EIDXA meeting will be on Friday, January 17, 7:30 PM at the Linn County REC Building in Marion. The program will be the FOOXI program from the No Cal DX Foundation.

APRIL MEETING

The regular April EIDXA meeting will be on Friday April 18, 7:30 PM at the Linn County REC Building in Marion. The room is reserved but the program is still open so send your suggestions to KOVZR. Deadline for the April newsletter is April 1. No Fooling!

DUES PAST DUE

Dues for the 1985-86 year are now PAST DUE. They were due at the October meeting and if not paid by the January meeting, you will be dropped from the membership rolls. Members who HAVE paid their dues are KUOA, KOAL, N9BD, KAOCEH, KOCF, W0EJ, W0FO, KB0FP, K0GT, K0GVB, KJOH, N8OH, KOIIR, W0IZ, KOJGH, W0MJN, W4NIN, NCOO, W0PPF, KB0PR, KCOQ, KDOO, KORM, W0SR, W0VY, KOVZR, NGOW, KE0Y, and KF0Z. If your call is not on "THE LIST", send your check for \$4.00 to K0GT right now before you forget. This is the only notice you will receive!

CQ WW RESULTS

Club participation in the CQ WW contest was, as my kids say, decent. We had about 20 stations participating although not all the scores have been submitted yet. Remember, CQ WW CW scores must be in by January 15. The following are the scores I have:

	<u>SSB</u>	<u>CW</u>
KUOA	35,211	
KZOC	668,792	
W0FO	28,912	41,309
K0GT	267,471	
KJOH	412,620	421,950
W0IZ		209,517
KOJGH		3,850
W0MJN		139,573
W4NIN	56,401	
NCOO		11,844
W0VY	393,786	
KOVZR	129,078	
NGOW	220,745	
W0MP		920,304
KF0Z		18,357

Conditions better in the SSB contest than the CW one. Lots of DXpeditions and, as usual, a ton of DX activity. The club score roughs out to something like 4 million points. Not too bad for a sunspot minimum!

ARRL DX CONTEST

The ARRL DX Contest is upon us. February 15-16 is CW and March 1-2 is PHONE. The ARRL log, summary, and dupe sheets are enclosed in this issue. Use them to make as many copies as you need. The rules are the same as last year but just in case you are not sure, complete DX Contest rules are in you December QST page 93. Complete club competition rules and disqualification criteria are in January QST page 94. Both make for interesting reading. See you in the piles!

IOWA SM RESIGNS

Iowa Section Manager Bob McCaffrey, KOCY, has announced his resignation effective January 15, 1986. In a letter to all Iowa Section leadership appointees, he cites business commitments and a loss of effectiveness as Section Manager. He also says that it is time to get new ideas in the section since he has been SM since 1980. It is expected that our Division Director, Paul Grauer, will appoint an interim SM to fill the balance of McCaffrey's term.

DXCC BACKLOG

According to a card from Don Search, DXCC Manager, processing of DXCC applications is running about 12 weeks behind. My cards were received at ARRL on September 23 and are not back to me yet. Efforts to replace the DXCC checker who went on to better things have not been totally successful. As you have no doubt noticed, the annual DXCC listing has not yet appeared in QST and is likely still a few more months away.

MEMBER NEWS

KOAL has made it to Europe and back. Al has many nice slides and tales to tell that might make a good program. What say Al? ... Congratulations to Joe, N9BD, on his new job in Kansas City. Some big time DXers in that town! Looks like they will have another one soon. ... Congratulations also to Jim, KZOC, on his new job in the Waterloo area. ... After many months Wade, W0EJ, can once again turn his antennas. A new rotor finally did the trick after many hours of fooling around with the old one and the thrust bearing. ... W0IZ, has a new Heath PA that he will have built just as soon as they ship him the 10 meter mod kit. Iowa Electric will be happy when Dale gets back up to 2KW! ... K0GT has a new 2 meter transverter and beam. Can you really work new countries on 2 meter SSB Gary? ... W0MP has a new VFO-230 for his TS-830. With the transceiver, external VFO, and the separate 7553 receiver, will Tom have enough hands to run it all? Catch him in the ARRL DX Test for the answer! ... K0GVB is looking for an Icom antenna tuner. ... W0FO now has a new kitchen, again. Things really got cooking for him during the CQ WW Contest. Fortunately, the minor fire was quickly put out and damage was confined to his newly remodeled kitchen. ... W0SHL has finished his move across town. Doug's new address is 4601 Northwood Dr. NE, Cedar Rapids 52402, phone 393-2974. Look for the antenna party in the Spring.

CONTRIBUTORS

Thanks to W0EJ, K0BT, W0HJM, W0SR, and K0VZR for their contributions to this issue. All inputs from all members are always welcome and appreciated. Input deadline for the April issue is April 1.

LATEST @ CALLS

As of the end of November, the latest tenth district calls assigned by the FCC were; Extra - N00L, Advanced - KE0BK, General - N0GQI, and Novice - KAOVNC.

DX NET

Don't forget the EIDX information net every Sunday night at 9:30 PM on 145.19. While you are at it, bring some hot DX scoop to share with the other members. If you don't think there is enough DX info on the net, it's because you aren't bringing it.

ARRL BULLETINS

HR PROPAGATION FORECAST BULLETIN NR 52 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT DECEMBER 31, 1985 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

THROUGH DECEMBER 24, THE SOLAR FLUX WAS HIGHER THAN ON THE CORRESPONDING DAY ON THE PREVIOUS SOLAR ROTATION 18 TIMES, AN ODD STATE OF AFFAIRS IN THE LATE YEARS OF A SOLAR CYCLE. BUT THEN CAME A 70, THREE 69S AND A 68, EACH 2 POINTS LOWER THAN THE PREVIOUS SOLAR ROTATION. STILL, THE DECEMBER FLUX AVERAGE WILL BE ABOVE 75, BEATING ALL OF THE EARLIER MONTHS OF 1985. THESE STATISTICS ARE CITED TO SHOW THAT SUNSPOT CYCLES, LIKE BASEBALL GAMES, ARE NEVER OVER UNTIL THEY ARE OVER.

WITHIN THE PAST TWO WEEKS, SOLAR ACTIVITY HAS COVERED A RANGE FROM ABOUT THE HIGHEST TO THE LOWEST THAT WE ARE LIKELY TO SEE FOR AT LEAST ANOTHER YEAR. FLUX READINGS IN THE 80S, AND THERE WERE 7 OF THEM BETWEEN DECEMBER 12 AND 20, CAN WORK WONDERS FOR 14, 21, 24 AND 28 MHZ, IF THEY COME DURING THE COOLER MONTHS OF 1986. THE LOW 70S AND HIGH 60S SHIFTS THE DX POTENTIAL TO THE LOWER BANDS.

THE NEW YEAR WILL START IN THE LATTER RANGE, BUT A GRADUAL RISE SHOULD BEGIN ABOUT JANUARY 2 AND CONTINUE THROUGH AT LEAST THE 6TH. THE EARTH'S MAGNETIC FIELD SHOULD BE RELATIVELY QUIET EARLY IN THIS PERIOD, MAKING FOR GENERALLY GOOD PROPAGATION ON ALL FREQUENCIES. AS THE FLUX RISES, GEOMAGNETIC ACTIVITY INCREASES AS WELL. THIS WILL BRING LOWER SIGNAL LEVELS AND INCREASED FADING JANUARY 7 AND LATER. THERE WILL BE A BRIEF RESPITE, AND MOSTLY GOOD CONDITIONS, JANUARY 11 TO 13. COMBINED WITH THE FLUX PEAK EXPECTED AT THIS TIME, THIS MAY BRING THE BEST 21, 24 AND 28 MHZ PROPAGATION OF THE MONTH.

A LONGER CALM PERIOD EXPECTED JANUARY 18 THROUGH 23 SHOULD PROVIDE GOOD PROPAGATION, BUT WITH LOWER MUF. THE POOREST PROPAGATION OF THE MONTH, ESPECIALLY IN THE HIGHER LATITUDES, IS LIKELY AROUND JANUARY 10, 16 AND 25.

AMERICAN SUNSPOT NUMBERS FOR DECEMBER 19 THROUGH 25 WERE BETWEEN 0 AND 11 WITH A MEAN OF 3.1 AR

NR ARRL BULLETIN NR 110 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT DECEMBER 24, 1985 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

RADIO AMATEURS COMMUNICATING WITH THEIR CONGRESSMEN ALLEGING THAT A CERTAIN LOBBY IS OUT TO KILL PHONE PATCHES MAY BE DOING MORE HARM THAN GOOD. THE BILLS IN QUESTION, HR 3378 AND S 1667, HAVE BEEN NAMED THE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS PRIVACY ACT OF 1985. THE BILLS INDEED REQUIRE SOME ATTENTION FROM THE AMATEUR COMMUNITY, BUT THEY DO NOT PROPOSE TO OUTLAW PHONE PATCHES. THE MEASURE CANNOT REACH THE HOUSE OR THE SENATE FOR A VOTE BEFORE FEBRUARY OR LATER, AND ARRL HAS BEEN WORKING CLOSELY AND PERSONALLY WITH COMMITTEE STAFF OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS TO SMOOTH OUT ROUGH SPOTS. RADIO AMATEURS WHO WISH TO WRITE TO THEIR REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS ARE ENCOURAGED TO FIRST OBTAIN A COPY OF THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION. COPIES ARE AVAILABLE FROM ARRL INFORMATION SERVICES, NEWINGTON, CT 06111. A LARGE SASE WITH 73 CENTS POSTAGE WOULD BE APPRECIATED. DETAILS IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY QST AR

NEW WAZ AWARD

CQ Magazine has announced a special WAZ award to commemorate 50 years of WAZ. Full rules are reprinted below. Looks like a fun one to go after especially during a sunspot minimum. Could separate the men from the boys. Good luck with that zone 19 QSL!

WAZ

50th Anniversary Award

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the WAZ Award, CQ is offering a special WAZ certificate for those working the 40 zones between January 1 and December 31, 1986. QSLs should be submitted directly to our WAZ Award Manager, Mr. Leo Haljsman, W4KA, 1044 S.E. 43 Street, Cape Coral, Florida 33904.

A special plaque will be awarded by CQ to the first amateur to qualify, as determined by postmark. Sequential numbers beginning with number one will be assigned to the WAZ-50 certificates in the order in which the applications are received by W4KA. Regular WAZ application forms will be used and are available from W4KA and from CQ Magazine, 76 North Broadway, Hicksville, NY 11801. SASE please. All standard WAZ rules apply except that the award application fee is \$5.00 for all applicants, regardless of whether the applicant is a CQ subscriber.

WHO DO THEY THINK THEY ARE?

de N0EJ

Well, the first series of DX contests are done for the year and an old irritant that gets me steamed has shown up again.

You all see it! These guys who operate big contest DXpeditions who don't sign their calls. They seem to think they are the only ones competing in the contests so they don't have to give out their calls after every contact. Often it seems like hours before some of these guys bless us with an ID! I heard one poor guy who dared to ask V2A what his call was in the CQ WW CW contest and the lid on the throne at V2A told him he was out of line to ask since they would give out their call after every 20th QSO!!!! To quote someone we have all hear before, "Well EXCUUUUUUUUUse ME!!!!"

This time I came up with my own solution which, after sharing my frustrations with some of you, turns out to not be original, but could be effective, just the same. Since these Bozos need to run the contact up and choose to do so at the expense of everyone else's time, try this: If you come across a non-ID'er, just work him but don't log him and move along. Each time you find these lids, keep working them. If you are fortunate enough to get a call out of them then you can log them and congratulate yourself. Maybe if these turkeys end up with a log loaded with duplicate QSOs, they might reconsider their poor operating etiquette. What have the rest of us got to lose????

RTTY RBBS...TO BE OR NOT TO BE

de W0MJN

On August 1, 1985, the two meter RTTY RBBS (Radio Bulletin Board System) was moved to the W0MJN QTH from W4NIN's QTH. In the first few months after the move, activity picked up from what it had been and system utilization was quite good. However, during the last month of operation, activity has begun to dwindle. The number of system accesses has dropped from 4-7 per day to 2-3 per day, and the number of "regular" users of the RBBS has dropped to about five.

As I have noted in past newsletters, the RBBS is only useful if it has a lot of different people putting information on it. I know there are a number of EIDX members that have RTTY capability, but are not using the RTTY RBBS. This fact, coupled with the recent low utilization would indicate that there is not enough interest in the EIDX to support an RTTY RBBS. The current lack of interest in the RBBS makes it difficult to justify tying up a computer, monitor, two disk drives, real time clock, computer interface, 2-meter transceiver, 12vdc power supply, and antenna on a full time basis.

I would like to keep the RBBS on the air, but if interest does not pick up during the next 4-6 weeks, the system will be taken off the air and the equipment put to better use.

RTTY RBBS...To be, or not to be? The choice is yours!!!

NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS

de K0VZR

I hope this newsletter arrives before the last of your New Year's Resolutions are made and before the first of those are broken. I'd like to propose a couple of resolutions:

1. This is the year I earn the ____ Award. Fill it in: WAZ, WAZSO, 5BDXCC, Honor Roll, etc. To do this I will _____.
2. This is the year of some better equipment. Antennas or Rigs? What do you need and can it be done?

I'm a goal setter. I've found it works. I encourage you all to try. Set realistic and desirable goals and map a strategy to attain them.

Goal setting and commitment will continue to be important in 1986 in our club and in the hobby. All of our energies are needed to keep things going through this last year of sunspot decline. It's worth the effort.

I'm looking forward to the club's year in 1986. There were some good contest efforts and lots of new members in 1985. This enthusiasm is great and we can all feel the excitement it generates. ARRL CW and Phone are coming. Start planning now.

At this QTH, I hope 1986 brings a new tribander and some VHF activity. Low band antennas will need attention this summer and a resolution to a neighbor and his TVI problems.

All the best in 1986.

HOT 100 UPDATES DUE

de N0EJ

Once again it is time to really update your HOT 100 listings. The first issue of the year is to be the one where the top 100 countries of those participating is determined. To do this I need your DXCC wants and I will compile the list.

However, with the major drop in participants in the HOT 100 in the last year, maybe I don't need to update the list or maybe we don't need the list anymore. What do you think?

So, if you want the HOT 100 to continue, pass your wants to me in person, on the twisted pair, 145.19, simplex, letter, post card, net, RTTY bulletin board, etc. no later than the Monday before the January meeting. The extra time is needed to compile the new list and get it reproduced by the club meeting. If you don't think the Hot 100 should be continued, please pass that along to me too.

See you at the meeting.

MEETING MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Eastern Iowa DX Association was called to order by president Tom White, KOVZR, on September 20, 1985 at 7:43 PM at the Linn County REC Building.

Those present were W0EJ, KOVZR, KJOH, KE0Y, KU0A, W0PFF, KF0Z, KB0PR, K0RM, KOJSH, NC00, W0IZ, W0MP, K0GVB, KAOCEH, KA20ZI, N9BD, W0VX, W0FO, KC00, N8OH, KOIIR, W0MJJ, N6OW, and K0CF.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Due to the absence of the secretary/treasurer, there was no treasurer's report.

OLD BUSINESS

Dayton Hamvention Transportation - N8OH reported that a bus could be chartered to provide round trip transportation to the hamvention for about \$50 per person. Local transportation in Dayton was discussed. A show of hands of those present indicated that about 12-13 were interested. Using vans was also discussed. N8OH will also look into group housing for next year.

Muscatine Hamfest - KE0Y reported that this new hamfest will be held October 6 at the West Liberty Fairgrounds. Tickets are \$3 in advance and \$4 at the door. Flea Market tables cost \$5 plus \$2 for electricity.

QSLs - K0CF reported that orders are being taken for lots of 1000 cards at a cost of \$28 per 1000. Cut off for the orders will be Wednesday, September 25.

New Member Applications - Applications were received from Tom Hise, NC00, for Associate Membership and Clark Pantel, KOIIR, for Full Membership. Both applications were approved.

It was announced that dues were being accepted for the 1985-1986 year. Also ARRL membership can be renewed through the club.

W0EJ reported that activity on the H0T 100 was off dramatically. More than half of the participants from 6 months ago have been dropped due to lack of activity. It was questioned whether the H0T 100 should continue.

DXAC Report - W0SR was not present, but it was reported that Pribiloffs still count for KL7!

RBBS - W0MJJ reported that the RBBS has been moved to his QTH for various reasons. Activity, however, was up to the point that it was necessary to reblock the disk every 4 days.

Sunday Nite Net - The net still meets at 9:30 PM local time on Sundays. Because attendance was low, KOVZR questioned whether another night might be more convient. This question was put off until the next meeting.

Repeater Status - W4NIN reports that the VSWR has stayed at 1.3:1 for the last 14 months.

K0LUZ sends greetings to the club via W0MP.

W0IZ pointed out that N9BD has put on several VHF/UHF grid squares with 2 meter Dipositions to Charles City and Spirit Lake Iowa and into Minnesota. The rare grid squares provided by Joe were EN33, EN23, and EN24.

New Business

K0GVB has IRCs for sale at \$0.35 each or 10/\$3.50.

KOIIR the Official Bulletin Manager for Iowa is looking for Official Bulletin Stations.

Fall and Winter Contests - What to do? Should there be more challenges? Should they be inter or intra club? KAOCEH volunteered to provide a trophy for whatever competition was selected. W0MP moved that the club make a strong effort on the CB WW contests to evaluate the score and determine what course we should take for the ARRL DX Competition in 1986. W0VX seconded the motion. The motion passed. W0VX moved that we have a pizza party and a special edition of the newsletter to get everyone ready. The motion passed.

Membership Recruitment - Members were asked to make a pitch at their local clubs about membership in the EIDXA.

Election of Officers

W0VX and KOVZR were nominated for president. KOVZR was elected.

W0VX was nominated for vice president and nominations were closed before Dave could protest. W0VX was elected.

K0BT was nominated for secretary/treasurer. Because Gary was not present to defend himself, nominations were closed. K0BT was elected.

KOVZR brought up several topics for future meeting programs which included F00XX slides, packet radio, and K0GVB wanderings. Tom also suggested that maybe two programs for each meeting might be of interest: a DX program and a general/educational program. The January 1986 meeting would feature such a format. Ideas on how to streamline the business meeting were also solicited.

N6OW reminded everyone that he is available to check QSL cards for most CB awards.

The meeting adjourned at 9:13 PM.

Wade Walstrom, W0EJ, Acting Secretary

CALL CW ☐ PHONE ☐ ARRL SECTION BAND

ABC						F8						JA2					
CE						F9											
CM/CO						G2											
CN						G3											
CP												JA3					
CT																	
CX						G4						JA4					
D												JA5					
DA												JA6					
DF																	
						G5						JA7					
						G6											
DJ1						G8						JA8					
2						GD											
3						G1						JA9					
4												JA0					
5						GJ						JD					
6						GM						JE					
7												JF					
8						GU						JG					
9						GW						JH1					
0																	
DK1						HA1						JH					
2						2											
3						3						JI					
4						4						JJ					
5						5						JK					
6						6						JR1					
7						7											
8						8						JR					
9						9						KA					
0						0						KC					
DL1						HB9						KG					
2												KH6					
3						HB0											
4						HC											
5																	
6						HK						KL7					
7						HL/HM						KP4					
8																	
9						I											
0												KV4					
DM																	
												KZ5					
												LA					
						IS0											
DU						IT9											
EA						JA 1						LU					
EI												LX					
EL												LZ1					
F																	
												LZ2					

DIRECTIONS: Use this form (or your own) to avoid duplicates. CIRCLE calls of each new country as worked. This record must accompany your entry. Additional sheets are available from ARRL Headquarters, 225 Main Street, Newington, Connecticut, U.S.A. 06111.

ARRL INTERNATIONAL DX COMPETITION CHECKSHEET

OA						UA9						VR					
												VS					
OE												VU					
						UA0						XE					
OH												YB					
						UB5											
												YN					
OK1												YO					
OK2						UC2						YS					
						UD6						YU1					
OK3						UF6											
						UG6											
ON						UH8						YU2					
						UI8											
						UJ8											
OX						UK1						YU3					
OY						UK2						YU					
OZ																	
												YV					
PA						UK3											
												ZB2					
						UK4						ZD					
PJ						UK5						ZE					
PY												ZF					
												ZK					
PZ						UK6						ZL					
S																	
SK/SL						UK7											
SM						UK8											
						UK9											
												ZP					
						UK0						ZS					
SP						UL7						3					
												4					
						UM8											
						UO5						5					
						UP2											
SV												6					
T						UQ2											
						UR2						7					
						UT5											
UA1						UV						8					
						UW											
UA2																	
UA3						UY5						9G1					
												9H1					
UA4						VK						9M					
UA6						VP											
												9Y4					

CALL _____ BAND _____ NR. COUNTRIES _____ NR. CONTACTS _____

(do not write above this line)



ARRL INTERNATIONAL DX CONTEST

CW Third FULL weekend in February - Phone First FULL weekend in March



CALL USED _____ CW ☐ PHONE ☐ ARRL SECTION (P. 8 QST) _____

Separate logs and summaries must be submitted for each mode of operation.

Single operator

- ☐ All band
☐ Single band(circle one)
160-80-40-20-15-10
☐ QRP (10w or less)

Multipoperator

- ☐ Single transmitter
☐ Multi-transmitter

Multipops list ALL operators:

	Valid QSOs	Countries
160		
80		
40		
20		
15		
10		
Total		

_____ x 3 = _____ x _____ Countries =
(Valid QSOs) (QSO Points)

_____ Claimed Score.

DC POWER INPUT - CHECK ANY USED: ☐ 10 watts or less ☐ 11-200 ☐ Over 200

YES ☒ AFFILIATED CLUB PARTICIPATION

NO ☐

ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB NAME EASTERN IOWA DX ASSOCIATION

(Note: Club secretary must submit list of eligibles in order for club aggregate to be listed. 3 or more entries must be submitted.)

"I have observed all competition rules as well as all regulations established for amateur radio in my country. My report is correct and true to the best of my knowledge. I agree to be bound by the decisions of the ARRL Awards Committee."

Date _____ Signature _____ Call _____

Print or type:

NAME: _____ CALL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

1. Check log for duplicate QSOs.
2. Copy ALL QSO info carefully. A penalty is assessed for incorrectly copied QSO info.
3. Observe mailing deadline
4. Dupe/check sheet must accompany all entries of 500 or more QSOs

Jim Spencer
124-115